GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1350
ANSWERED ON:07.12.2015
Educational Degrees
Misra Shri Ajay (Teni)

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has taken note of the cases of possession of fake educational degrees by the people particularly by teachers in the country;
(b) if so, the details thereof;
(c) the steps taken by the Government to resolve the problem;
(d) whether the existing laws are adequate to resolve the problem related to issuance and receipt of fake educational degrees; and
(e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
(SMT. SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI)

(a) to (c): Each year the University Grants Commission (UGC) publishes a 'Public Notice' containing a list of fake universities and self-styled unrecognized institutions for awareness of general public and students on its website www.ugc.ac.in . The Ministry of Human Resource Development has requested the Chief Secretaries of State Governments, where these fake universities / institutions are situated, to investigate the matter and register complaints with the police. The UGC too has written to all the Chief Secretaries, Home Secretaries and Education Secretaries of all States/Union Territories to initiate a drive against institutions offering degrees without approval of the statutory authorities.
Universities are autonomous entities, created by both Central and State Governments and the data regarding fake degrees is not centrally maintained. Universities have powers to lay down rules of admissions through ordinances and initiate action against officials involved in such cases.
(d) & (e): Specific instances of fake educational degrees can be proceeded against on the basis of the Indian Penal Code (IPC) and the Code of Criminal Procedure (CrPC). However, in order to detect and deter instances of issue of fake degrees, this Ministry is in the process of consideration of a National Academic Depository which envisages online storage, verification and authentication of academic awards in the depository.
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